



## Paul D. Smith

April 23, 1959 - May 26, 2024

Paul Dale Smith passed away on May 26, 2024 at the age of 65 from a short battle with bone cancer.

Paul was born on April 23, 1959 in Winslow, AZ. He graduated from Winslow High School in 1978, he was an outstanding student and prolific athlete who excelled in baseball and football. Paul received a scholarship to play baseball at Mesa Community College and then at BYU. At BYU he experienced a career-ending injury that ended his collegiate and promising professional baseball career. After the passing of his father, he needed to be closer to his mother so he transferred to Northern Arizona University where he joined the football team as a walk-on and quickly became a rising star. After graduation, he was drafted into the newly formed USFL by the Oakland Invaders. Playing football was not Paul's true love, so he decided to forego football and moved to Salt Lake City, Utah to start working with his older brother Bennie Jr. in his construction company (Beneco). As the company grew and prospered, Paul moved to Sacramento, CA to manage a large company project, where he met his wife, Tanya, who was in the USAF. Paul and Tanya married in 1994 and moved back to SLC and then on to Phoenix, AZ where they started their own construction business. Their business quickly prospered because of Paul's unique business insight and selling ability. Their company won the Minority Enterprise Development Small Business Company of the year in 2000 for the construction division. They were also awarded the largest construction contract in the state of Arizona to a minority business in the state's history. In

2002 Paul and his family moved to Maryland where he continued to build and grow his company. Paul quickly became involved in youth football and that is where his love for coaching and mentoring youth and later young men flourished. Coach Paul dedicated all of his free time to coaching with the Columbia Ravens football organization and helped build the program to a power-house association.

Paul was a very spiritual and emotional man who loved God and his family so deeply. Paul was predeceased by his father, Bennie Smith Sr., and his mother, Jessie May Woods, his brothers, Larry Smith, Bennie Jr. (wife and Bobby Smith (wife Tisha)). He is survived by his wife, Tanya (Redcross); his daughters, Jordan and Bayli Smith, his sons Aeneas Smith and Lavain Scruggs. His brothers, Artis Smith (wife Terry), Mark Smith (wife Taneka), sisters-in-law, Christina Harding, Tracy Redcross (Will), Erica Redcross (Jay), brothers-in-law, Rodney Redcross, and a host of nephews, nieces, and cousins.

A "Celebration of Life & Memorial Service" will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 10:00 am., at The Peoples Community Baptist Church, 31 Norwood Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20905. Flowers (Family graciously prefers plants) can be sent to the church or Paul's home at 547 Donaldson Ave, Severn, MD 21144.

While we lost our most beloved husband and dad, many have lost a good friend, coach and loved one in him. He has been a rock to many, a master at sarcastic humor and witty timing to others, and even a pain in the neck, once you were marked as important to him, he'd be by your side if you needed him. There was so much more to him than just husband/dad, though to us that was his greatest role - he was also a friend, a coworker, and colleague, a cousin, brother, stand-in paternal figure to the fatherless, a businessman, the list goes on and on. Coach Paul will be missed immensely, but the impact of his legacy will live on through the countless friendships he forged with his players and their families and through the love he showed and fostered to so many.

We invite you all to share pictures or memories at <https://www.marchltclaurel.c>

om/obituaries/Paul-Smith-130/#!/TributeWall. It was his wish that we laugh and reminisce, and smile together during this difficult time. Although Paul lost his battle against cancer. His family wishes to extend a special thanks to the dedicated staff of the George Washington University Hospital, especially Rowena "Ro" Picar and Drs. Melancon and Neppalli and the ICU unit at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center in Glen Burnie. We also want to express special gratitude and a sincere "thank you" to Mr. Jafu Delane, who gave Paul a kidney two years ago.

Paul had a relationship with many clergy personnel in MD/DC metro area. We are grateful for all the love and support offered by Pastor Haywood A. Robinson, III, Minister Yvonne Robinson-Davis, Deacon Ty McKinney, and Dr. Jeffery Johnson of The People's Community Baptist Church. Pastor Sherman Forte of The Word Church (AZ), Rev. Dr. Tyrone P. Jones, IV and Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Sapp-Jones of First Baptist Church of Gilford, Pastors Tim and Robyn Seay of Crossover Church, Revered Dr. Emil Thomas, Pastor Louis B Jones II.

We thank you for nurturing his soul, praying for us throughout this journey, and embracing us as family. Words cannot express how deeply we appreciate the prayers and condolences we have received from our family and friends. Your expressions of love are a beautiful reflection of Paul's character, sincerity, perseverance, and optimism. We are grateful to all of you who nurtured his spirit and brought joy to his life. Thank you all for sharing your fond memories. We appreciate all you have done to lift our heads and relieve our grief. With heartfelt thanks, The Family of Paul Dale Smith

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Laurel  
7601 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, MD 20707  
(301) 490-1550  
<https://www.marchlifetributecenter.com>

## Wake

JUN 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

The People's Community Baptist Church  
31 Norwood Rd  
Silver Spring, MD 20905

## Funeral Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

The People's Community Baptist Church  
31 Norwood Rd  
Silver Spring, MD 20905

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

March Life Tribute Centers - Laurel - June 04, 2024 at 08:50 PM



“ *March Life Tribute Centers - Laurel created a Webcast in memory of Paul D. Smith*



March Life Tribute Centers - Laurel - June 03, 2024 at 05:12 PM

NA

*My family has so many memories of Coach Paul . He was so kind , generous and supportive. Big part of the sports like and journey for all of my sons. He will truly be missed. Natasha and the Igwebe family.*

Natasha - June 06, 2024 at 11:41 AM

ME

“ *Paul -heart of gold and beast playing ball. Smart and a leader, miss him and blessed to spend younger days near him. Gone way to early Rest in peace, I'll see you soon  
Birdman  
Oh, lastly, you thought and could not sing like Barry White*

mead - January 25 at 11:42 AM

MG

“ Monique G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Monique G. - June 07, 2024 at 11:26 PM

TT

“ Tina T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Tina T. - June 05, 2024 at 09:48 PM

RP

“ Rowena P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Rowena P. - June 05, 2024 at 09:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 05, 2024 at 06:50 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 05, 2024 at 03:55 PM

AF

“ Archbishop Spalding Football planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Archbishop Spalding Football - June 05, 2024 at 03:55 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 05, 2024 at 03:08 PM

LK

“ Love, Bill and Audrey Kemp purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Love, Bill and Audrey Kemp - June 05, 2024 at 01:20 PM

LK

“ Love, Bill and Audrey Kemp planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Love, Bill and Audrey Kemp - June 05, 2024 at 01:20 PM

CP

“ Dear Family,

*I am deeply sad at the lost of our dear Paul!! He was a kind, compassionate, giving and loving soul, with a wonderful spirit for life and a great sense of humor. He will be greatly missed, the magnitude of which cannot be measured.*

*My favorite poet is Rumi, and below I am sharing one of his many apropos quotes:*

*“Sorrow prepares you for joy. It violently sweeps everything out of your house, so that new joy can find space to enter. It shakes the yellow leaves from the bough of your heart, so that fresh, green leaves can grow in their place. It pulls up the rotten roots, so that new roots hidden beneath have room to grow. Whatever sorrow shakes from your heart, far better things will take their place.”*

*— Rumi*

*I am with you in spirit!! Sending you much love and light.*

*XOXO!*

*Your cousin,  
Cynthia Parrish*

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**Cynthia Parrish** - June 05, 2024 at 12:25 PM

GC

“ Dear Coach Paul's Family,

*I am deeply saddened by the news of Coach Paul's passing. He was more than just a coach to us; he was a beloved mentor and friend. Coach Paul had a profound impact on my son Ian's life. To Ian, and many others, Coach Paul was like a father figure. It's hard to believe that we were blessed to see him just last month. His guidance, compassion, and warmth will forever be remembered. Coach Paul, you will always hold a special place in our hearts. We love you and will miss you dearly.*

*With heartfelt condolences,*

*Gillian Crevelle*



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**Gillian Crevelle** - June 05, 2024 at 11:55 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.*



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June 05, 2024 at 09:51 AM

FR

“ From The Reeds purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Paul D. Smith.



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**From The Reeds** - June 05, 2024 at 09:43 AM

FR

“ From The Reeds planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

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**From The Reeds** - June 05, 2024 at 09:43 AM

BF

“ Benito, Laura, and the Rodriguez family purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Paul D. Smith.



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**Benito, Laura, and the Rodriguez family** - June 04, 2024 at 02:13 PM

BF

“ Benito, Laura, and the Rodriguez family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

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**Benito, Laura, and the Rodriguez family** - June 04, 2024 at 02:13 PM

BM

“ Brenda M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

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**Brenda M.** - June 04, 2024 at 01:45 PM

JC

“ Jeffrey C. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Jeffrey C. - June 04, 2024 at 01:37 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 04, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 04, 2024 at 12:55 PM

DF

“ David & Ronda Castillo Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

David & Ronda Castillo Family - June 04, 2024 at 12:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.*



June 04, 2024 at 10:11 AM



“ *Roy and Linda Pitt purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Paul D. Smith.*



**Roy and Linda Pitt** - June 04, 2024 at 08:39 AM



“ *Family Gaitan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.*

**Family Gaitan** - June 04, 2024 at 08:37 AM



“ *Family Gaitan purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Paul D. Smith.*



**Family Gaitan** - June 04, 2024 at 08:37 AM



“ *Ray Hoover (AMS) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.*

**Ray Hoover (AMS)** - June 04, 2024 at 07:20 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.*



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June 04, 2024 at 07:20 AM



“ *As close to PERFECTION as one can be! To a cousin and an uncle and mostly “THAT GUY”. THAT GUY who listened to my complaints as he battled thru illness. THAT GUY who would share a laugh every time we talked. THAT GUY who made it a point to see BOTH my daughters play in college. THAT GUY who tirelessly made connections personally and business. THAT GUY who valued family and God more than anything in this world. THAT GUY who was full of life and fought till the end.*



*Paul, I'm gonna miss you Cous! You ALWAYS worried about me and my loooong hours. You ALWAYS looked for solutions. You were a problem solver, ALWAYS trying to provide a solution to help others. I've got one regret.....you know what it is!!*

*Love you Cous,*

*Derek Redcross*

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**Derek Redcross** - June 04, 2024 at 06:49 AM

NF

“ Neta Hulitt and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Neta Hulitt and Family - June 04, 2024 at 03:00 AM

NF

“ Neta Hulitt and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Neta Hulitt and Family - June 04, 2024 at 03:00 AM

JA

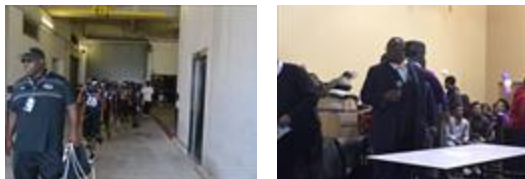
“ So thankful for the joy and impact Coach Paul had on our family. Dont know where we'd be without him. RIP my brother, I'll see you on the other side. Much Love.



jandie - June 03, 2024 at 10:34 PM

JA

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



jandie - June 03, 2024 at 10:21 PM

RG

“ Recon Group purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Recon Group - June 03, 2024 at 09:20 PM

MF

“ Maurice Manswell and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Maurice Manswell and Family - June 03, 2024 at 09:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Paul D. Smith.



June 03, 2024 at 09:19 PM

SF

“ Shavon Smith & The SJS Law Firm purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Shavon Smith & The SJS Law Firm - June 03, 2024 at 09:00 PM

JW

“ Julius & Christine Washington planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Julius & Christine Washington - June 03, 2024 at 08:57 PM

JW

“ Julius & Christine Washington purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Julius & Christine Washington - June 03, 2024 at 08:57 PM

AE

“ Addie Eaves purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Paul D. Smith.



Addie Eaves - June 03, 2024 at 08:19 PM

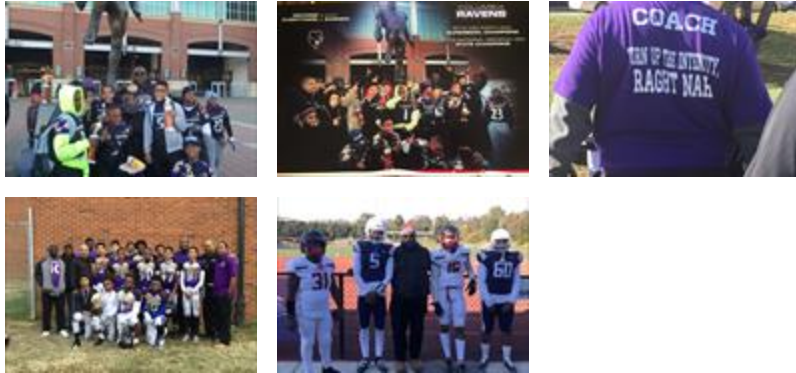
AE

“ Addie Eaves planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.

Addie Eaves - June 03, 2024 at 08:19 PM

TW

“ We love you Coach Paul! 💜🙏💜



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**Tamekah Wilkins** - June 03, 2024 at 07:41 PM

MM

“ *Magadia Consulting Inc - Magdalena planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul D. Smith.*

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**Magadia Consulting Inc - Magdalena** - June 03, 2024 at 03:52 PM

SF

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Smith Family** - June 02, 2024 at 02:05 PM